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UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 WWW.USPTO.GOV

4/12/03

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FOR PATENT OWNER

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FOR REQUESTER

In re Sorge et al

Reexamination Proceeding Control No.: 90/006,571

Filed: March 20, 2003

For: U.S.Patent No. 5,5556,772

: DECISION RETURNING

: IMPROPER PAPER

The paper filed by facsimile on June 10, 2003, by the third party reexamination requester entitled REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL DECISION is before the Group Director of Examining Group 1600. Under 37 CFR 1.550(e):

The active participation of the reexamination requester ends with the reply pursuant to 37 CFR 1.535, and no further submissions on behalf of the reexamination requester will be acknowledged or considered.

The paper filed by the third party requester, after the start of examination on the merits, is an improper submission under 37 CFR 1.550(e). See Syntex (USA) Inc. v. U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, 11 USPQ2d 1866, 1868-69 (Fed. Cir. 1989). Accordingly, the paper has not been considered and is being returned herewith. MPEP 2267. This decision will be made of record in the reexamination file. It is noted that the issues raised in the paper would normally be considered/reconsidered by the examiner in the first Office action on the merits.

John Doll

Director, Technology Center 1600/2900

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